

EXETER PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

"Fairford",
Exmouth.

April, 30th 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the Exeter Port Health Authority.

Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to present the Annual Report for the year ended December, 31st 1944. For obvious reasons and as directed by the Ministry, it has been considerably curtailed.

TABLE A.

There has been a notable diminution in the number of vessels which arrived at the Port. The majority were of Foreign nationality, and with a few exceptions, the cargoes carried were coal. Seven cargoes of flour - the only food landed at the Port were inspected and found to be in good condition. Every vessel was boarded and inspected, and the crews interrogated. No cases of serious illness were reported and no sanitary defects or signs of rat infestation were discovered.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Adequate steps are taken to deal with any contamination of food which might occur either during transit or on arrival at the Port.

TYPHUS FEVER AND SMALLPOX.

The necessity for the timely detection and disposal of suspected cases of these diseases and the precautions necessary to prevent their dissemination has not been overlooked and the arrangements for their immediate isolation and the vaccination of smallpox contacts etc: are available at the shortest notice.

(1) Action taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1925, the Public Health (Imported Food) Amendment Regulations, 1933, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives &c in Food) Regulations 1925 to 1927. NONE REQUIRED.

(2) Number of Samples of Food examined by:-

(a) Bacteriologist.

Nature of Sample. Result of Examination. NIL.

(b) Analyst.

Nature of Sample. Result of Examination. NIL.

THE SUBSIDIARY PORT OF TOPSHAM.

This Port was periodically visited. There was nothing of importance to record.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital offers free treatment for these diseases to all seamen and others. For their information a leaflet is given to the Masters of all vessels entering the Port, detailing the days and hours of treatment.

The Annual Report of Inspections made in Exeter by Mr Bonham, Chief Sanitary Inspector, is appended hereto.

Yours faithfully,

C. Beesley, M. O. H.

PORT HEALTH INSPECTIONS IN EXETER, ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1944.

During the year 1944, the number of visits made to the Port of Exeter was 38.

Coastwise vessels carrying inward cargoes were inspected as follows:-

With cargoes of Flour.	4.
" " " Cement.	2.

The flour was in excellent condition.

Inspections revealed that the vessels were in good sanitary condition and no rat infestation was reported. The crews were interrogated and no illness was reported.

There were several consignments of salted codfish received ex rail by the Newfoundland and Labrador Fish Co. From one consignment 66 lbs: were condemned being soft and unmarketable.

At each visit the Wharves and Warehouses were inspected and a constant watch was kept for rat infestation which was observed to be definitely less than in previous years, being probably due to the City Council's Officer's action in 1943.

Arthur E. Bonham.

Assistant Inspector.